

**From:** [Issa, Alfred](#)  
**To:** [Bernier, Roberto](#)  
**Cc:** [Sigmon, Rebecca](#); [Mason, Steve](#); [Pascua, Russell](#)  
**Subject:** RE: RE: Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas Caused by Hurricane Harvey  
**Date:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 10:50:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[image007.png](#)

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Roberto,

We obviously do not want to distract you from your very important hurricane responsibilities and we thank you very much for taking the time from your busy schedule to provide us with the information below.



Alfred Issa, P.E.  
US NRC  
alfred.issa@nrc.gov  
(301) 415-5342

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**From:** Bernier, Roberto [mailto:bernier.roberto@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** Issa, Alfred  
**Cc:** Sigmon, Rebecca ; Mason, Steve ; Pascua, Russell  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] RE: Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas Caused by Hurricane Harvey

Alfred, I'm working on details of the ER phase. What the news put out is pretty much what happened except for no explosions as originally reported, but self-ignition on 3 trailers and manual ignition of the remaining 6, in a controlled manner. The why's and how's the facility got there is being investigated by the CSB and the EPA RMP program. Is too early and an ongoing investigation. Answers later.

This much is known: plant lost power with uncertainty as to when would be restored, they were securing the heat sensitive peroxide in temporary refrigerated trailers with generators, flood waters came in too quick and had to abandon the temporary plan halfway and evacuate the plant. No access to plant for H&S reasons and temporary cooling capabilities eventually lost, heat increased, self-ignition (expected) and manual eventually.

We can have a discussion and lessons learned later, much later please since I'm still activated for hurricane response. But I'm interested on providing any information that could be used to prevent in the future. Thxs, Roberto.

Roberto L. Bernier  
Environmental Engineer, FOSC  
Emergency Management Branch (6SF-EO)  
U.S. EPA - Region 6  
(214) 665-8376  
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[bernier.roberto@epa.gov](mailto:bernier.roberto@epa.gov)  
NRC (800) 424-8802 EPA 6 Spill (866) 372-7745

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**From:** Mason, Steve

**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 10:06 AM

**To:** Issa, Alfred <[Alfred.Issa@nrc.gov](mailto:Alfred.Issa@nrc.gov)>; Bernier, Roberto <[bernier.roberto@epa.gov](mailto:bernier.roberto@epa.gov)>; Pascua, Russell <[Pascua@WAPA.GOV](mailto:Pascua@WAPA.GOV)>

**Cc:** Sigmon, Rebecca <[Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas Caused by Hurricane Harvey

I am forwarding your email to Roberto Bernier, who was our On-Scene Coordinator at the scene to see if he has any other information...

**With Regards, Steve**



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**From:** Issa, Alfred [<mailto:Alfred.Issa@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 10:02 AM

**To:** Mason, Steve <[mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Sigmon, Rebecca <[Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov)>

**Subject:** Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas Caused by Hurricane Harvey

Good morning Steve,

Do you have any information that you can share regarding the Arkema event in Crosby, Texas, other than what is available in the news, on the chemical safety board web site and on the company's web site that could help us to learn more about what happened, how it happened and why?

Thank you very much

NRC SEAL



Alfred Issa, P.E.

US NRC

[alfred.issa@nrc.gov](mailto:alfred.issa@nrc.gov)

(301) 415-5342

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**From:** Pascua, Russell [<mailto:Pascua@WAPA.GOV>]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 10:09 AM

**To:** Issa, Alfred <[Alfred.Issa@nrc.gov](mailto:Alfred.Issa@nrc.gov)>; [Ashley.Ruocco@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Ashley.Ruocco@hq.doe.gov); Sigmon, Rebecca <[Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov)>; [OEC@LISTSERV.ENERGY.GOV](mailto:OEC@LISTSERV.ENERGY.GOV)

**Cc:** Mason, Steve ([mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov)) <[mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov)>; Yamben, Walter R. <[Walter.Yamben@NETL.DOE.GOV](mailto:Walter.Yamben@NETL.DOE.GOV)>; [Samuel.Tolbert@srs.gov](mailto:Samuel.Tolbert@srs.gov); Woodard, John <[Woodard@WAPA.GOV](mailto:Woodard@WAPA.GOV)>

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] RE: [EXTERNAL] OEC Request: Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas Caused by Hurricane Harvey

I recommend contacting our partner with ESF-10, Oil & Hazardous Material. Steve Mason can provide all the details regarding the chemical plant in Crosby.

Steve Mason

EPA Region VI  
[mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov)  
214-665-2276  
214-789-1871

**Russell L. Pascua, P.E. | Civil Engineering**  
**ESF-12 Regional Coordinator, Alternate | FEMA Region VIII**  
Western Area Power Administration | Headquarters  
(O) 720.962.7430 | (M) 303.475.5413 | [pascua@wapa.gov](mailto:pascua@wapa.gov)

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**From:** Distribution list for the DOE Corporate Operating Experience Committee  
[<mailto:OEC@LISTSERV.ENERGY.GOV>] **On Behalf Of** Ruocco, Ashley

**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2017 6:29 AM

**To:** [OEC@LISTSERV.ENERGY.GOV](mailto:OEC@LISTSERV.ENERGY.GOV)

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] OEC Request: Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas  
Caused by Hurricane Harvey

Hello OEC-

Please review the request from Alfred Issa, NRC, regarding lessons learned from Hurricane Harvey.  
Please cc me as well- we are looking into drafting an OES on this.

Thank you,  
Ashley

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**From:** Issa, Alfred [<mailto:Alfred.Issa@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 8:28 AM

**To:** Ruocco, Ashley <[Ashley.Ruocco@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Ashley.Ruocco@hq.doe.gov)>

**Cc:** Sigmon, Rebecca <[Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Sigmon@nrc.gov)>

**Subject:** Information Regarding the Arkema Problems in Crosby Texas Caused by Hurricane Harvey  
Hello Ms. Ruocco,

I work in the Operating Experience Branch at the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and we are interested in what happened at the Arkema, Inc. chemical plant in Crosby, Texas as a result of Hurricane Harvey to see if we could apply any lessons stemming from this event to our work. Although we understand that the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) is in the very early stages of conducting an investigation into the event, we are interested in learning more about what happened as soon as the information becomes available. Our interests encompass both the technical details and emergency preparedness and response.

Could you please disseminate my request to the members of the operating experience committee?  
Thank you very much for your support



Alfred Issa, P.E.  
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